37. A composition according to Claim 36 comprising proteins encoded by SEQ ID NO:12 and SEQ ID NO:14.

38. A composition according to Claim 36 comprising proteins encoded by SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:6, further comprising a protein encoded by SEQ ID NO:4.

39. A composition according to Claim 36 comprising proteins encoded by SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:6 and SEQ ID NO:25.

40. A composition according to Claim 38, further comprising proteins encoded by SEQ ID NO:12 and SEQ ID NO:14.

41. A composition comprising at least one isolated protein or a fragment of a protein selected from the group consisting of

(a) a protein having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2 (VanH), a fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO: 4 (VanH), a fragment of SEQ ID NO:4; SEQ ID NO:6 (VanX), a fragment of SEQ ID NO. 6, SEQ ID NO:25 (VanC), a fragment of SEQ ID NO:25; wherein said fragment of SEQ ID NO:2, of SEQ ID NO: 4, of SEQ ID NO: 6 or of SEQ ID NO: 25 is necessary for conferring resistance to glycopeptides in Gram-positive bacteria; and

(b) a protein or fragment thereof which is encoded by a sequence hybridizing with one nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9 and SEQ ID NO:10 under high stringency conditions or only slightly stringent conditions; wherein said protein or fragment thereof is necessary for conferring resistance to glycopeptides in Gram-positive bacteria.

42. A purified protein comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:4 (VanA) and SEQ ID NO:25 (VanC).

43. An isolated protein having a sequence selected from the group of consisting SEQ